



Enniskerry School Boys/Girls Football Club

CODE OF CONDUCT

August 2007

CHAIRMANS FOREWORD

It is our primary goal as a club, to provide a safe and fun environment for all our children to learn and play football. As a voluntary organisation this is what we are about. Any child who wishes to play for this club will be accommodated. No child will ever be turned away. Idealistic maybe, but never the less these few sentences express the way we strive to behave at this club. Undeniably there are times when we fall short of these objectives. But we will continue to bring football to the children of Enniskerry and the surrounding area with these guidelines to the fore.

While success on the field of play is always welcome, we believe it to be much more important for all of our members to enjoy playing for this club. As the children grow into young adults, their own natural competitiveness will drive them on the pitch and the training ground. Some will opt out of football for their own reasons. As long as they are committed to us we will commit to them.

In essence, three distinct groups cooperate to make the junior section of Enniskerry Schoolboys/girls Football Club work. The children, their Parents, and the many volunteers who give of their time to run all aspects of the club both on and off the field. The guidelines in this booklet detail the minimum level of behaviour we expect from all of these groups. While we accept that from time to time individuals may fail to meet these guidelines, continual failure will not be tolerated from any source. This club is about the children and not the parents, committee or coaches.

As Chairman, I give my full support to what is contained in this booklet. As our club grows I feel it is critical that we all know what is expected of us. For the most part what is detailed here is simply common sense. I thank you on behalf of the club for your support to date and look forward to it continuing into the future.

Yours in sport,

Dave Taylor
(Chairman)

Code of Conduct for Coaches/Managers

1. Managers/Coaches/and Parents/Guardians will show respect for all players and officials and lead by example. Respect should always be shown to Referees and recognition given to their official position on the pitch.
2. Coaches should ensure a safe environment for learning and development.
3. Young players play for fun and enjoyment therefore skill development and playing for fun take precedent over highly structured competition. Winning is not the only objective.
4. Coaches should help and encourage young players to develop basic skills and sportsmanship and they should avoid over specialisation in positional play during their formative years.
5. Coaches should ensure that all players are aware that bullying (verbal or physical) will not be tolerated.
6. In relation to young players, coaches should ensure that all players participate and average players require and deserve equal time and attention. Do not overburden young players with too much instruction.
7. Coaches should advise players and parents on how and whom to go to if they wish to make a complaint.
8. Where possible coaches should avoid:
 - a. Spending excessive amounts of time with children away from others.
 - b. Taking sessions alone (always employ “two deep” supervision)
 - c. Taking children to their homes.
 - d. Taking other peoples children on journeys alone in their car.
9. Coaches should never:
 - a. Engage in rough physical games, including horseplay.
 - b. Allow children to use inappropriate language.
 - c. Make inappropriate comments about, or to a child even in fun.
 - d. Let allegations a child makes go without being addressed and recorded.

Code of Conduct for Parents

Enniskerry SFC needs the help/support of all parents to enable us to develop as a club, for the benefit of all in the community of Enniskerry and its environs.

1. Parents should lead by example.
2. Parents should always show respect for all players, opponents, managers, coaches and officials.
3. Remember to let the coach do the coaching at matches and training. Too many coaches confuse the children.
4. Parents are encouraged to give all children positive support at matches. Parents should be mindful that negative comments are counter productive and parents are requested to “Be positive or be Quiet”.
5. Parents attending training/matches are asked to conduct themselves in such a way which promotes the definition of fair play.
6. Parents should be prepared to be asked to leave by coaches/officials if behaviour is felt to be contrary to the definition of fair play.
7. Parents are required to support the coaches/referees decisions. These people are giving their time voluntarily and need your support.
8. Parents are asked to be responsible for transporting their children to matches/training. Parents “car sharing” are asked to ensure that at least two adults are in each car.
9. Parents are requested to positively support and encourage their child’s involvement in football with the club. Enniskerry SFC is not a child minding service.
10. Parents should ensure their children arrive at training/matches in good time, and with appropriate gear.
11. Parents should let managers know as soon as possible if your child is injured or sick and unable to attending training or matches.
12. Parents should ensure that their children are aware of the Players Code of Conduct and that they abide by it.

Code of Conduct for Players

Enniskerry SFC wants all players to enjoy their time with the Club. All players are asked to follow the Code of Conduct for Players.

1. Players should always show respect for team mates, managers, coaches, opponents and officials.
2. Players should arrive at training/matches in good time, and with appropriate gear.
3. Players should let managers know as soon as possible if you are injured or sick and unable to attending training or matches.
4. Players should be willing to learn and improve. Players should listen to coaches/managers and not distract others in the team.
5. Players should always play to win but accept defeat and victory with the same spirit.
6. Players should always shake hands with opponents after a game.
7. Enniskerry SFC will not tolerate bullying. If a player feels he/she is being bullied, they should feel safe to tell their coach.
8. The Club wishes all players to enjoy football with Enniskerry SFC. If a player is not, they should tell their parents/coach or the Club Children's Officer.

Fair play is the guiding principle of the Irish Sport's Council's Code of Ethics as well as the FAI'S Code of Ethics and Good Practice which is designed to provide guidance for those working with young people in football. It outlines the type of issues that need to be discussed and addressed to provide the safest and most enjoyable environmental not only for players but also the coaches and volunteers involved. This document in based on the guidelines outlined by both of these organisations.